[22nd October 1927

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"It is stated in answer to clause (g) that the 'present condition of the persons sent out from this Province is reported to be very good'. I want to know, Sir, what the hon. Member means by that."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, we asked the Jail authorities to submit a report on the health conditions of the people there, and that was the report that we received from them."

Mr. K. V R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member the percentage of mortality in the Indian jails here?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In our jails, the mortality is about 12·51 per mille."

Diet to vegetarian and non-vegetarian prisoners.

* 827 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of the food that is given to non-vegetarian prisoners;
(b) whether it includes fish and mutton; and
(c) whether the food of Indian prisoners includes curd or buttermilk?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to rule 347, Jail Manual.

Mr. K. V R. SWAMI:—"Will the hon. the Home Member kindly tell us whether curd or milk is given in jails?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think, Sir, that they are generally given."

Mr K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Jail authorities accept the theory that preference should be given to the kind of diet that the convicts are used to?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Whatever may be the theory that they accept, we have to go upon the provisions of the Jail Manual and the rules framed under it."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Sir, may I know whether the hon. Member would attempt to change the rules so as to apply that theory in this case, just as it is applied in the case of European convicts?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think it will be possible to do so; but still I shall consider the suggestion."

Labour

Labourers recruited from South Kanara for several plantations.

* 828 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to my question No. 167, answered on 26th August 1927, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of labourers recruited in South Kanara and sent to the plantations in Malabar, Mysore and Coorg in the years 1924, 1925 and 1926 by the United Planters' Association of Southern India showing the various communities to which they belong; and

22nd October 1927]

(b) the number of labourers that have returned from the several plantations in the same years?

A.—The information is not available.

Action proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Unemployment Committee.

* 829 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what action is proposed to be taken with regard to the recommendations of the Unemployment Committee?

A.—The orders of the Government will be found in G.O. No. 2284, P. W. & L., dated 7th October 1927, which will be placed on the table as soon as it is received from the Press.

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"May I ask, Sir, whether this Unemployment Committee report has been published, and if not, why not?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is stated in the answer that it will be published as soon as it is received from the Press."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"That is the Government Order, Sir. I am asking why the report itself is not published and offered for sale."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am under the impression that the report has also been published. I shall enquire into it."

Criminal Justice

Communal tension between Brahmans and non-Brahmans in Kaniyanur village, Walajah taluk.

* 830 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there has existed communal tension of a virulent type between the Brahman and non-Brahman residents of Kaniyanur village, Thimiri firka, Walajah taluk, North Arcot district, for some months past;

(b) whether the same has been the result of the propaganda of hatred which was allowed to go on unchecked by the local authorities;

(c) whether the Brahman population of the village is only about 25, while the non-Brahman population is about 500;

(d) whether the non-Brahman residents resorted to assaults and intimidation of outsiders who were engaged by the Brahmans for carrying on their cultivation work;

(e) whether one of such cases of assault has been under enquiry by the Sub-Magistrate of Walajah;

(f) whether the trees on the lands of the Brahman ryots have been destroyed and their buildings broken into, during nights and properties looted by the non-Brahmans;

(g) whether the Station-house Officer, Kalavai, to whom the Brahman ryots applied for help, sided with their non-Brahman enemies;